

ICHLA Health Committee Meeting Minutes 8-03-06

Indiana State Department of Health 1:00pm

Committee Members Present:

Carmen Quintana, IDOH Commissioner (Committee Chair)
Carolyn Requiz, IDOH-Office of Minority Health (Committee Vice-Chair)
Amelia Muñoz, Indiana Latino Institute
Javier Sevilla Mártir, M.D.
Morella Dominguez, Indiana Minority Health Coalition

ICHLA Staff Present:

Amy Mendoza, ICHLA Executive Director
Ryan Marques, ICHLA Staff
Laura Barrett, ICHLA Staff

I. Welcome

Carolyn Requiz called to order the ICHLA Health Committee meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2006 at 1:10pm.

II. Review of Minutes

Carolyn Requiz asked committee members to review the minutes from the previous committee meeting.

Amelia Muñoz made the following corrections to the May 25, 2006 minutes to read as follows:

Amelia Muñoz said that **the Indiana Latino Institute (ILI)** has implemented a pilot program in order to address the single Latino male tobacco problem. **The program is funded through the American Legacy Foundation. ILI has contracted with Luther Consulting to evaluate the project.**

Amy Mendoza asked committee members for any additional changes to the minutes. She requested that a motion be made to pass the committee minutes.

Carmen Quintana moved to approve the committee minutes of May 25, 2006.

Amelia Muñoz seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

III. Review and Discussion on 3 Focus Areas

Carolyn Requiz discussed the meeting she recently had with Amy Mendoza, Carmen Quintana and Ryan Marques in regards to committee member responsibilities. The three main areas of committee focus are as follows: Tobacco, Alcohol, & Prevention/Suppression/Education. Each committee member was asked to research these Hispanic/Latino focuses based on their personal area of expertise.

A. Tobacco Use

Amelia Muñoz began the discussion by explaining the Hoosier Faith and Health Coalition's tobacco resolution. This resolution supports tobacco tax increase by \$0.50 and encourages local ordinances to make more areas smoke-free. The Coalition's main focus group is amongst young children and youth who are targeted by the tobacco industry. There are two parts to the Coalition: Organization and members. She informed committee members that the Indiana Cancer Consortium is planning a lung and tobacco discussion workshop on August 22, 2006 at the Martin House. This workshop is free to attend. She also mentioned a National Prevention Conference in Tennessee and a camp for tobacco-free kids.

Amelia Muñoz announced a cancer survivor's initiative scheduled for August 29, 2006. Dr. Glance and Dr. Jay from Baltimore, Maryland plan to present their study findings. Unfortunately, the study did not include how tobacco is related to breast cancer. A panel of legislators will also present their plan on the tobacco tax. Legislators are looking at directly funds towards Medicare expansion. Amelia Muñoz promised to send all committee members an invitation to the August 29th initiative and to the August 22nd resolution meeting.

Ryan Marques mentioned a workshop that he had attended called Indiana CARES: A Demand Driven Approach to Healthcare Training and Education. The Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation (ITPC) research provided most of the workshop information. The majority of this information focused on youth concerns rather than adults issues. Ryan Marques announced that tobacco use became less prevalent amongst Hispanics between the years 2000-2004; however, it is still prevalent today. He suggested that the ITPC market towards Latino events. ITPC's Strategic Plan outlined a main focus to decrease smoking among Latinos by the year 2010. Unfortunately, ITPC has not recently sponsored a Latino event. Ryan Marques also provided a statistical chart about the adult population and smoking.

Amelia Muñoz explained a huge issue with Indiana tobacco statistics. She explained that the non-English speaking population was left out of the tobacco figures. She said, "the instrument was there, they just chose not to do it."

Amelia Muñoz mentioned the PATA project and how this organization has the base rate statistics from a small group of 18-24 year olds. This is a very important program. She explained how Hispanic/Latino smoking rates are much higher than they share. Amelia Muñoz said that second hand smoke is most prevalent among Hispanics/Latinos specifically working in the industrial fields and hospitality industries.

Ryan Marques said that the ITPC does offer minority outreach at all of their sites.

Morella Dominguez said that the Indiana Minority Health Coalition has 17 Coalitions; five of these are Latino Coalitions.

Javier Sevilla explained how Indiana University School of Medicine has access to the statistical information regarding Spanish-speaking high school students and smoking. He also suggested using the research collected from the Family Medicine Research report in Indianapolis. Javier Sevilla recommended that the committee contact Dr. Comal for more information regarding this report.

Amelia Muñoz informed the committee that another good health study came out in Minnesota.

Javier Sevilla asked that the committee include prevention and health promotion as a main focus. He suggested that the committee recommend a need for health-related data with the Latino population.

Amy Mendoza reminded committee members that the Health section of the ICHLA's Annual Report will include research, findings and recommendations from this Health Committee. The committee should focus on the needs and initiatives to be addressed.

Carolin Requiz stated the six counties with the highest number of Hispanics: Clinton, Elkhart, Allen, Lake, Marion and St. Joseph. Carolin Requiz asked members to "define what we will talk about with the committee."

Morella Dominguez reiterated how prevention is also "tied to the program."

Amelia Muñoz suggested that the committee "start with what is already out there, and then establish a program around that data."

Javier Sevilla said that the committee must justify from the data and explain the findings.

Carolin Requiz said that the committee must focus on and accomplish these ideas as a committee. She said, "We must first work it out with the data."

Amy Mendoza invited the committee members to bring their programs to the table.

Amelia Muñoz explained how the Indiana Latino Institute has been collaborating on programs with the ITPC.

Amy Mendoza stated that the ICHLA recently voted to become more involved with statewide conferences so that commissioners might bring more program/statistical data to the committees.

B. Alcoholism/Alcohol Use

Amelia Muñoz mentioned that the Indiana Latino Institute also collaborated with the Indiana Foundation to reduce under age drinking. Individuals were trained on environmental scams. Three groups from Marion County participated with this initiative, along with one from Clinton County and two from St. Joseph County.

Morella Dominguez suggested that committee members attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in support of Hispanics/Latinos. She asked that the committee help identify and understand where “they” are.

Carolyn Requiz stated that it is hard to find places (support groups) specifically for Latinos.

Amelia Muñoz said that these support groups are generally through churches.

Morella Dominguez gave a reference (Mr. Castellanos?) for an Alcoholics Anonymous group.

Carmen Quintana informed the committee that Attorney Pat Rios has a lot of experience in working with alcoholics.

Javier Sevilla recommended that the committee use information provided by the police/county sheriff.

Carolyn Requiz said that most Indiana minority alcohol-related statistics classify individuals as either “African-American” or “Minority.”

Javier Sevilla assured committee members that most of the statistics often use last name heritage to categorize races.

Amelia Muñoz said that Barbara Seitz-Martinez developed a survey on domestic violence statistics. She suggested that the committee revisit this study because domestic violence touches on many different abuses.

Carmen Quintana asked what kind of funding would be needed for a second domestic violence study.

Amelia Muñoz estimated that roughly \$25,000 was spent on the first study.

Amy Mendoza recommended that the committee advertise through the media to request funding assistance.

Amelia Muñoz discussed a group called Latinos and Latinas for Health Justice in California. This group has many valuable research resources that would be most beneficial to the committee. She acknowledged another project in Maryland called the PRAXIS Project.

Amelia Muñoz said that the Pacific Research and Evaluation center is also an excellent source for statistical research information.

Amy Mendoza said that Latina women have lower rates of binge drinking. As generations go on, drinking tendencies rise within the second generations.

Amelia Muñoz explained that ITPC already has an available survey that they administer randomly throughout various counties. The Indiana Latino Institute has volunteered to schedule an appointment so that they might participate with the survey.

C. Recruiting Minority Professionals

Carolyn Requiz encouraged the committee members to review current data and strive to find more.

Amelia Muñoz suggested that the committee complete a research review on the current data.

Javier Sevilla volunteered to search for articles and health professions, including Area Health Education Center (AHEC) information. He also reminded the committee to include findings from other organizations such as META and etc. groups working directly with Latinos kids.

Amelia Muñoz said that the Indiana Latino Institute is working with USA Funds and other educational programs. They are assisting with a bilingual educational pilot program in South Bend called “éxito escolar.” This program teaches higher educational content, financial aid and etc. through “novelas.” Amelia Muñoz has access to this DVD program. She said that they are now trying this style of teaching in other areas as well.

Morella Dominguez asked about the status of the DREAM Act.

Amy Mendoza said that the Commission is working on research with the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act is still under consideration with the federal government. It is a part of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006 bill.

Amy Mendoza asked the committee to submit their collected health data. She also spoke about the Diversity Council and how they are trying to focus more on Latinos earning degrees.

Carolyn Requiz said that the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is currently working on this initiative with promoting Latino degrees; unfortunately many Latino kids do not have documentation. Carolyn Requiz said that the IDOH-Minority now has a program with the Director from AHEC.

Javier Sevilla explained how META brings kids together so they get a chance to speak with professionals from many different professions.

Amy Mendoza said that the Commission plans to send letters to agencies/organizations requesting that the Commission become more involved with their initiatives.

Javier Sevilla belongs to an Indiana University Minority Council. He explained that there are not enough Latino students enrolled in their tailored programs; he helped create many of these programs. Unfortunately, IU cannot receive national recognition without a minimum number of applicants. It is yet to become an official effort. Javier Sevilla hopes that their efforts will be declared and accepted.

Amy Mendoza asked if there were many Latino school programs for health-related fields.

Amelia Muñoz explained that the Latino Institute plans to create a Latino Research Center. They are currently looking for sponsors, as they have already completed a comprehensive study. The Latino Institute plans to come to Indiana and conduct further research. This institute is Census-based.

Carolin Requiz spoke about the Minority Research Center in Bloomington and its national recognition.

IV. Discussion of Health Related Events/Conferences

August 12 (12pm)-Sorteo at the Indianapolis Children's Museum (PATA Tournament, Sept., Oct. 1 & Oct. 15th playoffs)

August-Lung, Tobacco & etc. issues

August 13- Hispanic Day at the State Fair

August 24-25-IUPUI Conference at the School of Philanthropy

August 29-Cancer Initiative Workshop (tobacco and tax initiative)

September 7-Domestic Violence Conference at the Radisson Hotel

September 14-15- 6th Annual Latinos Count Community Conference (Salvador Soto)

September-META

September-Pentatrón-different program (established to support a specific activity)

September-Clarian Health Conference

October-Behavior Health Summit (Alberto Perez)

October 6-15-Tri-National

October-Solo Para Ti Mujer

November-In-Shape Summit

Carolin Requiz explained how she is a part of the Women's Health Advisory Board.

Amy Mendoza spoke about the NHLI and how she will participate on a panel of speakers in regards to empowerment and success.

Amelia Muñoz discussed recruiting minorities.

Amy Mendoza promised to send Carolin Requiz the Health Committee's budget for conferences.

V. Next Steps

Carolin Requiz asked Ryan Marques to share his report about the Ivy Tech seminar that he recently attended.

Ryan Marques said that Ivy Tech held a seminar that focused on increasing the nursing field. The presenters included the following: Indiana University representative, Ivy Tech representatives, Indiana Workforce Development representative (provided grant info.) He announced that both himself and Amy Mendoza were asked to be a part of the State Action Team for Workforce Development. They will help in advising where grant monies should be sent. Ryan Marques explained how individual groups discussed ways to place more students into the nursing field. The nursing field is lacks with teaching faculty. Ryan Marques suggested that the universities create graduate nursing programs so that more nursing instructors are also created. Currently, the nursing state board only allows 10 nurses/teachers. This is the biggest hurdle.

Carolin Requiz explained another important move: How to bring foreign minorities here to the U.S. to work in the health field.

Amy Mendoza commented on here meeting with the state translations. They are in need of a small staff to review the translations. Amy Mendoza said that they are unsure about the amount of money to allocate towards this effort.

Carolin Requiz reiterated the importance of maintaining a consistency in translated materials.

Carolin Requiz adjourned the Health Committee meeting at approximately 2:15pm.